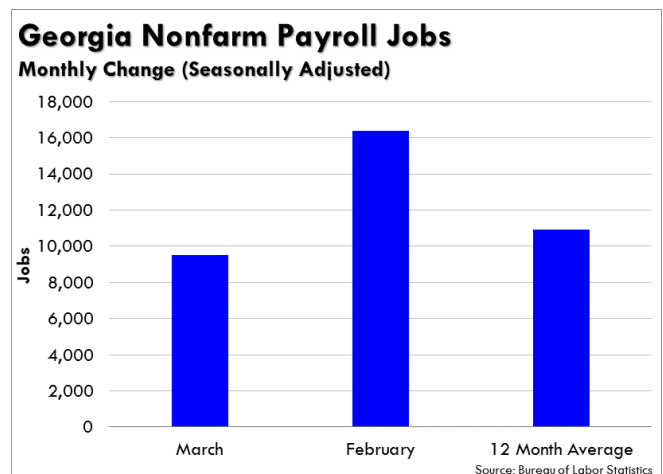
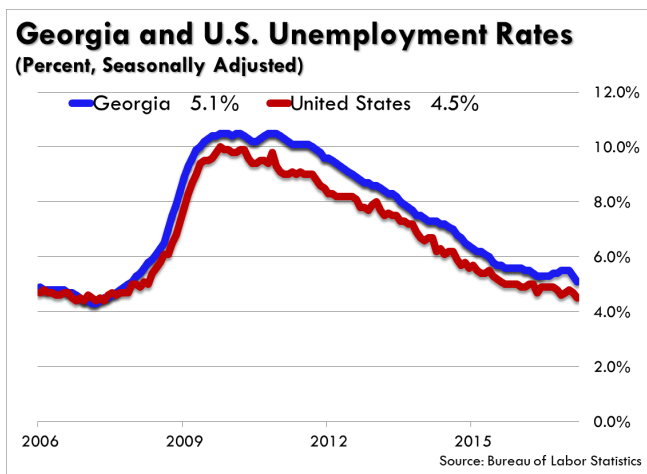


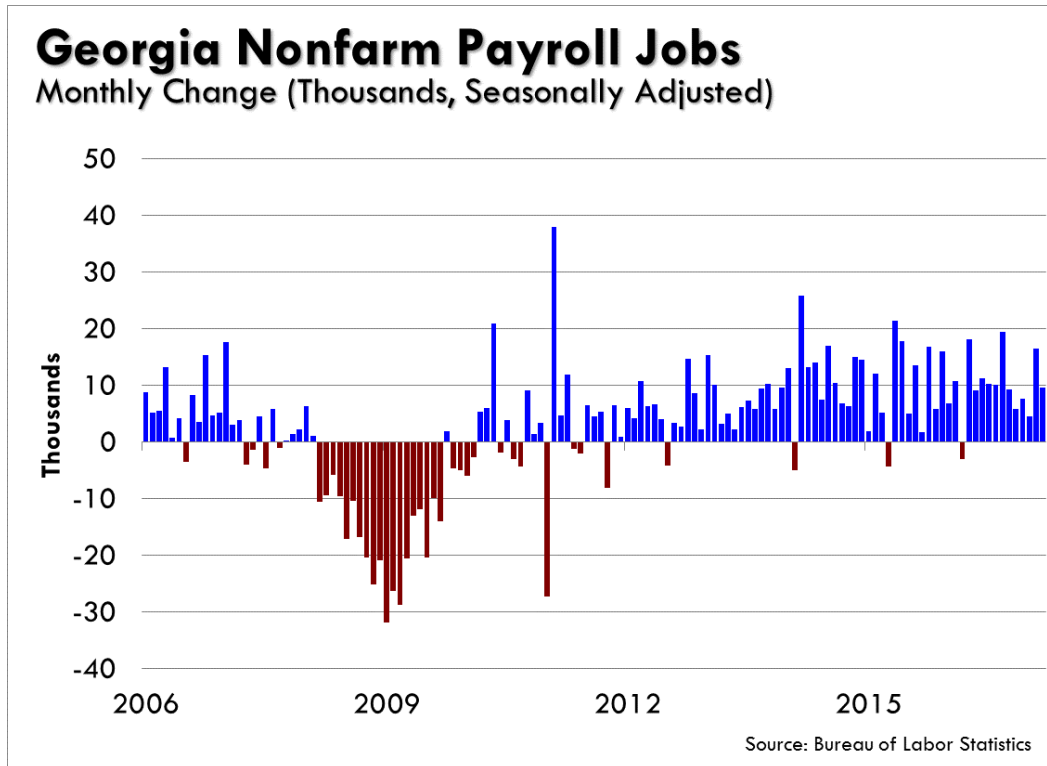


April 23, 2017

Summary

- **Georgia added 9,500 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 5.1 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Georgia added 131,000 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage point from 5.5 percent.
- **In March, Georgia's private sector added 11,300 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 116,100 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Georgians fell by 9,466 in March**, and over the past year 151,587 Georgians found jobs.
- Georgia's **labor force participation rate increased to 63.1 percent** from 63 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 1 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





Georgia Payroll Employment

Georgia added 9,500 jobs, or 0.21 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Georgia added 16,400 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Georgia increased by 131,000, or 3.02 percent. Georgia nonfarm payroll employment has increased in each of the past 12 months.

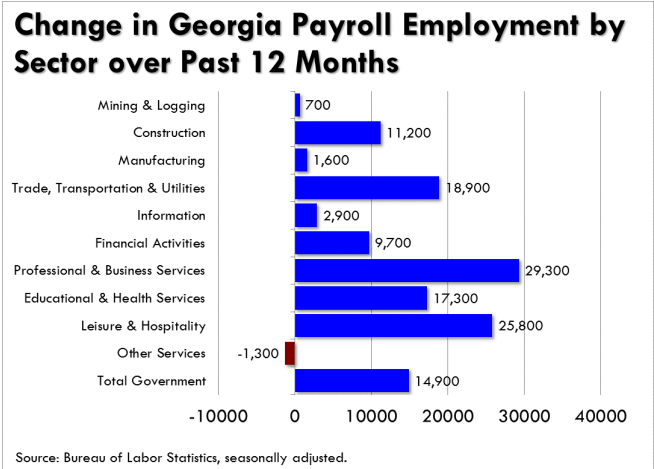
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Georgia ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During March, Georgia's private-sector added 11,300 jobs, or 0.30 percent. The private-sector in Georgia added 16,000 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Georgia increased by 116,100, or 3.17 percent. Georgia private-sector payroll employment has increased in each of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Georgia ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Construction (+4,700) and Professional & Business Services (+2,600). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Total Government (-1,800) and Other Services (-1,000).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (+29,300) and Leisure & Hospitality (+25,800). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Other Services (-1,300) and Mining & Logging (+700).



Georgia Labor Force Statistics

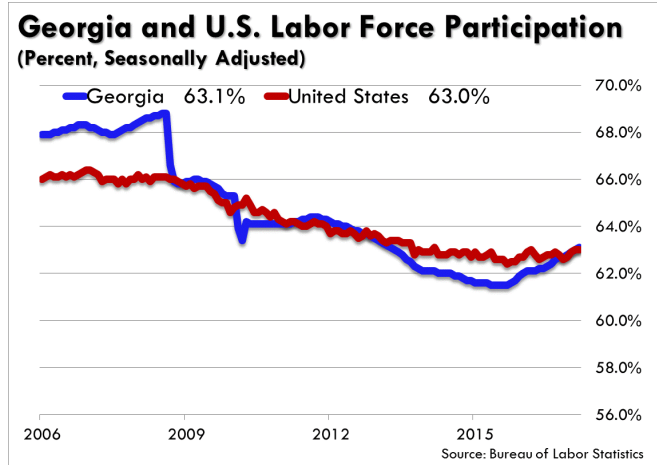
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Georgia rose to 63.1 percent in March from 63.0 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 29 have a higher labor force participation rate than Georgia. The labor force participation rate in Georgia is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Georgia was 68.8 percent in August 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Georgia occurred in December 1998 when the labor force participation rate hit 69.7 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 61.5 percent in September 2015. This also represents the series low for the labor force participation rate in Georgia. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Georgia civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 59.8 percent in March from 59.7 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of



Columbia, 30 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Georgia. The employment-to-population ratio in Georgia is 1.1 percentage points higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Georgia was 65.0 percent in April 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Georgia occurred in April 2000 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 67.1 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 56.8 percent in March 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in April 2010 when the employment-to-population ratio was 56.8 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

